

Changes to Federal Guidelines for Food Stamps

Effective October 1, 2013, Food Stamp Federal guidelines for income and deductions are changing. Based on the information in your case, you may see an increase or a decrease in your Food Stamp benefit. Your Food Stamp eligibility is calculated with different deductions depending on your household's circumstances.

Effective October 1, 2013, the Standard Deduction is increasing for all households. Everyone receives a Standard Deduction. Based on this increase, you may see an increase to your Food Stamp benefit.

- Household size of one to three will increase from \$149 to \$152
- Household size of four will increase from \$160 to \$163
- Household size of five will increase from \$187 to \$191
- Household size of six or more will increase from \$214 to \$219

Effective October 1, 2013, the Utility allowances are changing. Higher deduction amounts may lead to an increase in Food Stamp benefits. A lower deduction amount may lead to a Food Stamp benefit decrease.

- The Standard Utility Allowance is increasing from \$287 to \$305
- The Without Heating Allowance is increasing from \$204 to \$220
- The Telephone Only Allowance is increasing from \$29 to \$37

Effective October 1, 2013, the income limits for Food Stamps are increasing. Please go to <http://jobs.utah.gov/customereducation/services/foodstamps/qualify.html> on October 1, to view the new income limits. Increased income limits could mean your household is eligible for Food Stamp benefits. You may apply at any time online at jobs.utah.gov/myCase.

